

An Open Letter to John Keracher

To Keracher, surnamed John:

A faithful messenger (the Revolutionary Age) hath brought news of thee and thy deeds. Men say that thou and thy "small clique" hath betrayed the Left Wing into the hands of confusion and disorder.

Albeit, the Conference hath favored "a communist party in principle," thou and thy disreputable crew of "deserters" have gone forth and men say, thou hast issued a call for the organization of such a party.

How couldst thou do this thing? O, thou unprincipled intriguer. Thou impertinent youth, thou upsetter of the well-laid plans of others, hast thou forgotten that it was Louis that created "revolutionary socialism"? Did he not, with the sweat of his brow and the ink his pen, labor long that this Left Wing should come to be? Hath not his clarion call conjured up the hosts of "revolutionists" who array themselves beneath his banner? When he had written the law of Twelve Tables, might he not look upon his work and call it good? Hath it not been written (by himself) that he shall be our modern Moses to lead us—stumbling little children—out of the tyranny of the Unsavory Seven?

Hath he not, from the fulness of his heart, admitted thee and thy companions, Batt, Johnson, Renner and Rich, who he hath said "are not bolsheviki at all"—hath he not allowed thee to be present and to speak thy mind in his very own Conference? Most certainly he hath!

And now, in thy most monstrous ingratitude, thou violator of "party discipline," thou who hast been ejected with force from one party, now dost refuse to conform to the law as it hath been written in Boston!

Couldst thou not remain in meekness of spirit and humility, couldst thou not prostrate thyself before the throne and await the word of him who hath originated all that is good in the "upsurge of the proletariat"?

Whence hast thou and thy unholy companions derived the idea that thou hadst ought to do with the rallying of Socialists for Socialism?

God knows, there may be those amongst ye that write books. It is known that thou hast read them. Full many a time hath the faithful sons of Israel cast scorn upon thee and thy "study class," thy Marx, thy "scientific socialism" and all that is thine?

Thou hast become much puffed up, John; thou hast encroached upon the sacred realms of Louis. Thou hast offended his will.

For hath it not been written (in the Revolutionary Age) that it shall devolve upon him to say when a communist party shall be formed and how? Yea, verily it hath, full many a time.

Think not, varlet, that thou and thy Russian satraps shall go unpunished! Thou shalt be "disciplined"; thou shalt be "repudiated"; thy "vanity" and "lust for power" shall be crushed!

Hark ye, what dreadful fate shall befall thee—Jim Larkin will not join thy *? *? *! x? *? *! party! There are "bastard Irish" there, and not less than two of the "lousy Scotch" are known to be amongst ye.

Know thy end then. Thou hast not embraced the Left Wing Manifesto, therefore thou art not bolsheviki. Thou hast been weighed in the balance and found lacking in fiery speech. To thee the Book of Marx hath not been a joke; and for all these things shalt thou be thrust forth into the outer darkness.

Thy doom is pronounced! It is so written.

Revelations.

Our Comrades in the Rear of the Whites

The Russian Communist Party has undergone a long schooling in underground work. During several decades it worked underground at the Czarist regime. During the darkest moment of absolutism and triumph of Czarist counter-revolution, when the liquidators, fore-runners of the present coalitionists, appealed to the working class to give up its position, refuse to fight for ultimate aims, stop with partial demands, our party, true to the Marxian traditions, followed the "road of secret cooperation," and in the underground there was forged that glorious pleiad of workmen-revolutionists, who, after the February revolution, made the second October revolution, taking upon themselves all the burden of state-building when the proletariat took the government into its own hands. These underground experiences and traditions of struggle helped the proletariat during the great revolution. True, in Soviet Russia our party acts openly, it is the dominating party, but a considerable part of the territory of the Russian Socialist Federated Republic is still occupied by the White Guards, and is in the hands of counter-revolution. In Esthonia, Crimea, Caucasus, where the Kolchakists and their friends the coalitionists reign; everywhere

their communes are outside the pale of law. They could only work underground. In fact, nowhere did advanced workers lay down their arms; wherever the counter-revolution was successful temporarily, the communists remaining in that territory organized their underground organizations, and disorganizing the reign of the Whites, prepared the ground for the establishment of the Soviet Great Russia in territories temporarily torn away from it. This is the state of affairs in Siberia, Crimea, Baltic provinces and North Russia.

A telegram from Dwinsk says: "Elections for the Esthonian Constituent Assembly are boycotted by the Communist Party. But the party, altho driven underground, works en-

ergetically. In Reval the communists published thirteen proclamations in forty thousand copies." And in issue 61 of "Our War," the Red Army paper of the 11th Army, on March 29th, a proclamation was issued by the Archangel communists printed in the underground printing shop. Thus, in the rear of our enemy our brothers wage their heroic struggle, being driven underground by the Mensheviks, Social-Revolutionists, together with the representatives of the English command and the Czar's generals. The Archangel communists appeal thus to the mobilized: "We must not waste our forces beforehand. We will answer the call, and come out with rifles in our hands, but not to fight against

our brothers from Soviet Russia, but at a proper time to help them in fighting the common enemy. We wait for you! We are with you!"—the Archangel workers write us. In this way, under the most trying circumstances, our comrades conduct their struggle; they call to the workers to get their rifles ready, in order to use them in a decisive moment against their oppressors, in order to join with us, workers of Soviet Russia. And not only in the North, but in other parts of Russia; in Odessa, Rostov, Ekaterinodar, throughout Siberia, these groups of communists conduct their heroic struggle. They could be temporarily crushed, but the "communist contagion" cannot be killed completely, because it is impossible to annihilate the whole proletariat, whose advance guard is the communist party. Alongside, with our mighty party acting on the ever growing territory of the Soviet Russia, there are also underground organizations of the advanced workers on territories temporarily in the hands of the Whites. But the time will come when the communist groups in places occupied by the counter-revolution will join our party.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The National Organization Committee of the Communist Party of America is now prepared to supply temporary charters, application for membership cards, due stamps, membership cards, to organizations endorsing the call for the organization convention on September 1st.

These supplies will be valid until others are furnished following the action of the convention.

Due stamps will be sold to Local at five cents each.

Orders for the above supplies should be addressed to Dennis E. Batt, 1221 Blue Island Ave., Chicago, Ill. Make checks payable to J. V. Stilson, treasurer.

National Organization Committee.
Dennis E. Batt, Sec'y.

V. BYSTRIANSKY.
(From Petrograd "Prava")